AGENDA Friday, October 21st, 2011 Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee

VI. New Business

A. Replace Management I SFM Certification Exam with an Instructor-Generated Final Exam Form

<u>Background</u>: Back in 2008 when the CFSTES Fire Officer classes were Beta Tested for the possibility for Hybrid\Internet delivery, instructors in some of the classes were allowed to develop their own post class exam based on the material covered in the class, in lieu of the State Certification Exam. Such was the case in the Management 1 class that I taught.

The rationale was that was used for this change was based on the fact that the IFSTA Textbook and SFM Manual that the State Certification Exam was based on was nearly a decade old.

In addition, the IFSTA textbook "The Fire & Emergency Services Company Officer" had been updated and significantly changed.

While an Instructor generated exam was approved, in lieu of the Certification Exam, for the Beta Test, the Certification Exam was again required by Staff after the classes were approved for Hybrid\Internet delivery by STEAC at their October 17, 2008 Meeting.

While the Certification Exam is a 50 question exam based on old material, the Final Exam, that is given at the end of all instruction, has 100 randomly selected questions, drawn from a database of over 1,000 questions. Final Exam questions are taken from the most current instructional materials available and other resources needed to meet course requirements.

Also, in addition to the Final Exam, students are required to take 19 quizzes based on each of the reading assignments. Other exams, written assignments and discussion fill out the requirements of the class.

The re-imposition of the State Certification Exam in the Management 1 class, is not in keeping with past practice or in keeping with the goals of Blueprint 20\20.

<u>Request</u>: You are requested to approve an Instructor Generated Final Exam in lieu of the State Certification Exam, for Management 1 instructors who request such approval. They would need to request approval of the State Fire Training Chief and discuss their alternative exam, prior to such approval.

This would require that a policy and process be developed by Staff for STEAC Approval.